

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2131

SECRET USNATO 1369

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: SYG PROPOSAL FOR "PILOT" DISCUSSIONS IN COUNCIL

REF: USNATO 1296

1. AS REPORTED PARA 2 REFTEL, SYG LUNS SUGGESTED AT THE MARCH 8 PERMREPS LUNCH INSTITUTING A SERIES OF "PILOT" DISCUSSIONS IN THE COUNCIL, WHEREBY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN SERVING AS "PILOT" IN DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS SPECIFIC TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE ALLIANCE. HE MADE CLEAR THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS SUGGESTION WAS TO ELICIT INFORMATION, NOT TO COORDINATE POLICY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE SYG'S SUGGESTION WOULD HELP NAC CONSULTATION BY STIMULATING AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG PERMREPS, IDENTIFYING AREAS OF CONCERN TO THEM, AND PROVIDING A GREATER SENSE OF PARTICIPATION, PARTICULARLY FOR THE SMALLER ALLIES.

2. KILICK NOTED THAT IF THE UK MADE A PRESENTATION ON RHODESIA, FOLLOWED BY NAC DISCUSSION, THAT WOULD SEEM TO BE AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT LUNS WAS SUGGESTING. ON A PRELIMINARY BASIS, WE WOULD SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING TOPICS, IN ADDITION TO THE ONE SUGGESTED

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BY KILICK: COUNTRIES IN THE NORTHERN REGION MIGHT TAKE THE LEAD IN DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN NATO'S NORTHERN FLANK; DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AFFECTING NATO COULD BE LED BY A NATO COUNTRY BORDERING THE MEDITERRANEAN, SUCH AS FRANCE OR ITALY; A DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN THE BALKANS COULD BE LED BY A COUNTRY BORDERING THE BALKANS, SUCH AS ITALY, GREECE OR TURKEY; ANOTHER SUBJECT THAT COMES TO MIND IS THE SOVIET CAPABILITY TO PROJECT POWER, WHICH

PERHAPS AN OVERSEAS NATO COUNTRY, SUCH AS THE US
OR CANADA, COULD ADDRESS.

3. TOPICS SUCH AS THESE ARE SQUARELY IN THE MAIN-
STREAM OF THE WORK OF THE ALLIANCE, AND SHOULD NOT
RAISE UNDUE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE ALLIES.

WE WOULD ENVISAGE THE DISCUSSION LEADER NORMALLY
BEING THE PERMREP OF THE "PILOT" COUNTRY.

HE COULD, UPON OCCASION, BE ASSISTED IN THE
DISCUSSION BY A SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS
DELEGATION OR EXPERTS FROM HIS CAPITAL. FOLLOWING
THE INITIAL BRIEFING, A GENERAL DISCUSSION WOULD
TAKE PLACE AMONG PERMREPS, AND WOULD CONCLUDE
WITH A GENERAL SUMMING UP BY THE SYG. THE
DISCUSSION COULD HELP IDENTIFY SPECIAL AREAS OF
CONCERN WHICH REQUIRED FURTHER EXAMINATION BY THE
APPROPRIATE NATO BODIES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN TIME FOR THE PERMREPS
LUNCH TUESDAY, MARCH 15: AUTHORIZATION TO LEND
SUPPORT TO THE SYG'S SUGGESTION, AND VIEWS ON THE
TOPICS SUGGESTED ABOVE OR OTHERS WHICH WASHINGTON
WOULD CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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